



NOW READY FOR SALE.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY  
FOR 1877.  
(With which is incorporated "THE CHINA  
DIRECTORY".)

This Comprehensive Work, now in the FIFTEENTH YEAR of its existence, has been compiled from the Best and Most RELIABLE SOURCES, and no pains have been spared to render it COMPLETE in EVERY RESPECT.

It contains—

THE DIRECTORY FOR HONGKONG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CANTON.

THE DIRECTORY FOR WHAMPOA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR MACAO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HOIHOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SWATOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR AMOT.

THE DIRECTORY FOR FORMOSA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR FOOGHOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NINGPO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SHANGHAI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CHINKIANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR KIUKIANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HANKOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CHEFOO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TAKU.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TIENSYN.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NEWCHIANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PEKING.

THE DIRECTORY FOR JAPAN.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PHILIPPINES.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SAIGON.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HAIPHONG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HANOI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SINGAPORE.

THE DIRECTORY FOR BANGKOK.

With brief descriptions of Hongkong, the Treaty Ports of China, Japan, and the Philippines; also includes a mass of useful information in addition to that usually found in works of the kind.

The larger Directory contains the different Treaties and Conventions made by China and Japan with foreign countries, together with various Acts, Ordinances, and Regulations relating to Commerce and Shipping. It is further embellished with a Chromo—lithograph of

PLAN OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG;

THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF

SHINGHAI;

Chromo-lithograph Plate of the NEW

CODE OF SIGNALS in use at the

PEAK;

Also of the various HOUSE FLAGS.

(Designed expressly for the Work);

and

MAPS OF RONGKONG, JAPAN, &amp;c.

The Chronicle and Directory is the only publication of its kind for China and Japan, and it will be found invaluable in all Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

It is published in two forms—Complete at \$3; or, with the Lists of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c., at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the Daily Press Office, where it is published, or to the following Agents:—

MACAO.....Mr. L. A. de Grae.

SWATOW.....Messrs. Campbell &amp; Co.

AMOT.....Messrs. Wilson-Nichols &amp; Co.

FORMOSA.....Messrs. Wilson, Nichols &amp; Co.

FOOGHOW.....Messrs. Hedges &amp; Co.

NINGPO.....Messrs. Kelly &amp; Walsh, S. Ghosh.

SHANGHAI.....Messrs. Kelly &amp; Walsh.

HAIPHONG.....Messrs. Kelly &amp; Walsh.

MANIL.....Messrs. Hall, Hollis, and Kelly.

PEKING.....Messrs. Hall &amp; Walsh, Shanghai.

CHENGDU.....Messrs. Hall, Hollis, and Kelly.

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37, Park Row.

**NOTICE.** To avoid delay in the execution of Orders, it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. WATSON and Co., or

227 HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

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227 HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

THE combination of the Chinese dealers against the foreign cotton merchants in this Colony compelled them to accept Mexican silver in payment for cotton and yarn afforded another illustration of the pressing necessity existing for a proper currency in China. The supply of Mexican dollars is not equal to the demand and is extremely uncertain, while there are no means of preventing the defacement and deterioration of those coins by chopping. The difficulty now existing between the foreign and native dealers has arisen solely out of the discount on broken dollars; had there been a currency here it would never have occurred. The combination will supply the British and foreign residents here and in the open ports

with another argument in favour of the request recently forwarded to the home Government that it will coin a dollar for currency in this Colony, the Straits, and eventually in the Treaty Ports. The regret felt at the removal of the Mint from Hongkong has grown stronger as the disadvantages of the existing mixed coinage have become more and more apparent with lengthened experience. It is to be hoped that Her Majesty's Government will not only favourably entertain the suggestion of the bankers of Hongkong, but will also take prompt measures to carry it into effect. The inconvenience experienced through not having a currency is a serious one, and not very likely to be remedied otherwise for a long time. Even if the Chinese Government should eventually decide upon establishing a Mint, a considerable period must necessarily elapse before it could be got into operation to say nothing of the great possibility of obstruction and indirect opposition to the scheme by the natives. With regard to a British dollar, there is little doubt of its being eagerly accepted in view of its equal weight and fineness to the Mexican. Would it, after all, be safe from chopping? In this Colony it might, doubtless, but on the mainland it is to be feared it would share the fate of the Mexican, unless arrangements could be made with the Chinese Authorities to prevent its disfigurement. This might and ought to be done, for one of the main objects in desiring a currency that will be accepted throughout China and the Straits is to get rid of the broken silver. It has proved a great nuisance to the commercial community in the past, and is likely to become yet more serious in the future.

It will perhaps be remembered that some time ago it was decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to import Chinese coolies.

Application has been made to the Thanes Police magistrate by Captain Adams, of the Corps. Captain Adams stated that he left China in September last. When about 200 miles from land, he fell sick, and became unconscious. He fell into the sea, and was unable to get up again. He was picked up by a steamer bound for Foochow, bearing date Yuletide, January. The French mail, with the advice given above, from China and the Straits Settlements, was, as announced in our last issue, delivered, via Amoy, to the steamer.

Advises said San Francisco, bearing date Yuletide instant. The next inward (P. & O.) mail, from Yokohama 9th, Shanghai 12th, Hongkong 16th, Singapore 23rd January, left Liverpool on February 22nd, and would reach London on its due date, the 26th. The next inward (French) mail, with week's latest advices, left Soo on the 20th February, three days in advance of its due date.

A submission Concert in aid of the Shantung Famine Fund is spoken of, and we are sure will meet with the warm support of the Oon-

gong. The Tartar-General left for Peking on the 27th ult., in the O. & M. Merchant's ship *Hockchew*. His Excellency is reported to be in good health, and is expected to arrive in Peking in a few days.

The steamship *Meder* sailed for London on the 27th ult., with the last car of the Chinese mail from Foochow.

The *Meder* arrived at the new port. There is a small port on the river, and the Chinese mail is to be landed there.

At a meeting of residents interested in water-side property within the Foreign Settlement, held at Messrs. Turner & Co.'s offices on the 26th ult., it was resolved to concert measures to bring about the purchase, if possible, of the river frontage lots recently destroyed by fire.

At a recent meeting of the Chinese mail, a number of men were laying wait on the banks of the river.

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## THE NEW GUNS FOR THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

Two gunboats have been built for the Chinese Government by Messrs. Mitchell, at their works on the Tyne, from the design of Mr. Kendall; and are what may be described as an enlarged and improved copy of the *Staunch* class of gunboat. They are each of 400 tons burthen, and draw seven feet of water. They have tripod masts, and are fitted with two 12-inch guns, one of which is mounted on deck, and the other in a gunport. Each vessel carries a 38-ton gun in the bow, similar to those in the masts of the *Thunderer*, and is also provided with two 20-pounder Armstrong guns and two Gatling guns. Sir William Armstrong's hydraulic machinery has been introduced for working the heavy guns, and by an improved method which has been invented one of these underwriters has been named. The purchase of the vessels is to be made by the Chinese Government. The purchase of the vessels is to be made by the Chinese Government.

**EDUCATION IN FRANCE.**  
The French Government have introduced an Education Bill, which is likely to raise as abundant a crop of difficulties as have been raised by similar measures in this country. They are resolved, however, to have no twenty-fifth clause in their Act. All contributions and the payment of school fees will be decided by the parents of the fees themselves. Under the new bill education will be gratuitous, and the cost will be borne on the rates. Compulsion is not to be attempted until there are free schools for all who wish to attend them. It will be interesting to see how this bill will affect the clerical party in the Legislature. Unless the clergy are prepared to give up no longer than a small portion of their ecclesiastical liberty which is rare among French Orifices, the free school will prove very formidable rivals to the clerical schools. Both parties in France are strongly impressed with the importance of educating their young, and it is far from impossible that a fresh series of Ministerial and Constitutional tempests may be generated by the new bill.

**COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.**  
LONDON.—  
Do. Do.  
NEW YORK.—  
Do. Do.  
SAN FRANCISCO &c. YELMA City of Port (str.).  
Do. Do.  
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.—  
Do. Do.  
TOKIO & CO. BOMBAY.—  
Do. Do.  
SAIGON, SINGAPORE &c.  
BANGKOK.—  
MANILA.—  
YOKOHAMA.—  
Do. Do.  
SHANGHAI.—  
Do. Do.  
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LONDON, via SUEZ CANAL.—  
Asamemone (str.).  
Do. Do.  
NEW YORK.—  
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McNear (str.).  
Mythic Bell (str.).  
Do. Do.  
SAN FRANCISCO &c. YELMA City of Port (str.).  
Do. Do.  
SINGAPORE &c. KELVIN (str.).  
Do. Do.  
BANGKOK.—  
MANILA.—  
YOKOHAMA.—  
Do. Do.  
SHANGHAI.—  
Do. Do.  
SWATOW, AMOY, TAIWAN &c.

DESTINATION  
Vessel's Name  
Captain  
A/  
For Freight Apply to  
To Be Despatched.

LONDON, via SUEZ CANAL.	Asamemone (str.)	G. Harrington	Hongkong	Butterfield & Swire	On or about 7th inst.
Do.	Anglo Saxon (str.)	W. Taylor	Hongkong	Mayer & Co.	Quick despatch.
NEW YORK.	McNear (str.)	W. Taylor	Hongkong	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.	Quick despatch.
Do.	Mythic Bell (str.)	Pinner	Hongkong	Yeo, Hagedorn & Co.	Quick despatch.
SAN FRANCISCO &c. YELMA	City of Port (str.)	Do.	Hongkong	O. & S. Co.	On 1st prox., at 3 P.M.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Hongkong	Jordan	Quick despatch.
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.—	Kelvin (str.)	Lee	Hongkong	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 12th inst., at noon.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Hongkong	Diamond	On 19th inst., at noon.
TOKIO & CO. BOMBAY.—	Chiru (str.)	Champenois	Hongkong	Messageries Maritimes	To-morrow, at daylight.
Do.	Do.	Rajah (str.)	Hongkong	Yan Fu Hong	Quick despatch.
BANGKOK.—	Nova Constante	Uriarte	Hongkong	Hedemicks & Co.	Quick despatch.
MANILA.—	Do.	Do.	Hongkong	Macpherson & Co.	Quick despatch.
YOKOHAMA.—	Do.	Do.	Hongkong	Macpherson & Co.	Quick despatch.
Do.	Bombay (str.)	Do.	Hongkong	Macpherson & Co.	To-day, at 8 P.M.
SHANGHAI.—	Ancy (str.)	G. E. Drews	Hongkong	Macpherson & Co.	To-morrow, at noon.
Do.	Do.	Do.	Hongkong	Macpherson & Co.	On or about 6th inst.
Do.	Lombard (str.)	Young	Hongkong	Douglas Lapraik & Co.	On 8th inst., at daylight.

## Vessels on the Berth.

STEAMER FOR  
SINGAPORE, PENANG, POINT DE  
GALLE, ADEN, SUZU, MALTA,  
BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, MEDJU,  
TIRRANEAN PORTS,  
SOUTHAMPTON AND LONDON;  
ALSO,  
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, AND  
MADRAS, MELBOURNE.

**THE PINNACLE AND ORINPAT STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship  
"KHYA."** Captain Lee, will leave this on  
THURSDAY, the 12th April, at Noon.  
For further Particulars apply to  
ADAM LIND, Superintendent,  
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1877.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

**PACIFIC MAIL STREAMSHIP COMPANY,**  
THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND  
RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT  
YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.

**THE U. S. Mail Steamer CITY OF TOKYO**  
will be despatched for San Francisco  
Tokio, on the 14th April, 1877, at 8 A.M. Passengers and Freight  
through Passengers Tickets and Bills of  
Lading are issued for transportation to Yokohama  
and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco,  
to ports in Mexico, Central and South America,  
and to New York and Europe, via Overland  
Railways.

A Steamer of the Miles Bishi S. S. Company  
will leave Shanghai, via the Inland Sea Ports,  
about same date, and make close connection at  
Yokohama.

At NEW YORK, Passengers have selection of  
various lines of steamers to England, France,  
and Germany.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M.  
on the 13th April. Parcel Packages will be  
received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day.  
All Parcel Packages should be marked to ad-  
dress in full value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Overland  
Cargo should be sent to the Company's  
Steamship, *Sealed Express*, addressed to the Collector  
of Customs at San Francisco.

For security's sake, Ships of Overland  
Cargo are requested to endorse on the Envelope  
the Marks and Nos. of Packets Shipped, to  
correspond with those in their Bills of Lading.

For further information as to Passage and  
Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company,  
No. 16, Praya Central.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, March 22nd, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Company's Steamship**

"TIBRE"

Commandant Du Guignat, will be despatched for

YOKOHAMA.

TO-DAY, the 6th instant, at Noon.

H. DU POUEY, Agent.

454 Hongkong, 6th April, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Company's Steamship**

"TRAQUADDY"

Commandant Gaunau, will be despatched for

SHANGHAI.

TO-MORROW, the 7th instant, at Noon.

H. DU POUEY, Agent.

454 Hongkong, 6th April, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"RAJANATTIUNUHAR."

G. T. Hopkins, Commander, will be despatched for

SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, POINT  
DE GALLE, ADEN, SUNZU, ISMALLA,  
PORT SAID, NAPLES, AND  
MARETTILLE.

TO-DAY, the 14th instant.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, March 22nd, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"BO BANGKOK."

G. T. Hopkins, Commander, will be despatched for

TO-MORROW, the 7th instant, at Noon.

H. DU POUEY, Agent.

454 Hongkong, 6th April, 1877.

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TO-DAY, the 14th instant.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, March 22nd, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"GLACIATOUR."

will be despatched on or about the 6th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

508 Hongkong, 2nd April, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY."

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES  
AND EUROPE.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
CENTRAL AND UNION PACIFIC AND  
CONNECTING RAILROAD  
COMPANIES

**THE Company's Steamship**

"AGAMEMNON"

will be despatched on or about the 7th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

508 Hongkong, 2nd April, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"BO BANGKOK."

will leave for the above place shortly after the  
arrival of the *Steamship Lombard* with the  
next English Mail.

ADAM LIND, Superintendent.

514 Hongkong, 3rd April, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"STEAM TO YOKOHAMA."

will leave for the above place about 24 hours

after her arrival with the next English Mail.

ADAM LIND, Superintendent.

514 Hongkong, 3rd April, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"TIBRE."

will leave for the above place about 24 hours

after her arrival with the next English Mail.

ADAM LIND, Superintendent.

514 Hongkong, 3rd April, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

**THE Steamship**

"TIBRE."

will leave for the above place about 24 hours

## Extracts.

A TURNED-DOWN PAGE.—  
There's a turned-down page; as some writer says  
In every human life—  
A hidden side to other days  
Or others are the first.  
A foolish boy that the world knows not—  
A love-dream, like a dream,  
The sight of a son that is not forced—  
Alto the voice in bated.  
The far-distant sounds of a harp's soft strings—  
An echo on the air;  
The blinder page may be full of such things,  
Of things that were not.  
There is a hidden page in each life, and miss  
A story might tell—  
But the end was all of the drama divide—  
It better rests undisturbed.

## ANIMAL FOLK-LORE.

The folk-lore which survives about birds, beasts, and plants, may soon at first sight be the result of mere caprice, since we find so many creatures noticed in this way, which have to all appearance no claim to such prominence; whilst others, which to us are surely remarkable, are entirely passed by. Among birds, except perhaps, in the case of the robin, it is by no means bright colouring or peculiar form which seems to attract this kind of attention. The jay has little notice paid to it, and the woodpecker, which is the subject of old German story and superstition, is the great black and white species; not the red and green bird which is far more common. As for the kingfisher, whatever air of mystery may still rest about it, it is passed from the south and from old Greek romance. In the north it is without special folk-lore. In spite of all this, however, we may be quite sure that primitive beliefs and legends of this class were not distributed at hazard, but that they were clear and definite cause for the greater prominence of certain plants and animals in the old world of mythology. A different condition of the earth's surface, a modification of climate, the greater abundance of certain species, an excess of forest or of marshland; in a word, a thousand accidents which are hard to accept as of sure occurrence, must have influenced, in a way which is now difficult to realize, every branch of the human race when in that stage of progress in which the foundations of "folk-lore" are laid. We may wonder and speculate, but the true sources of the selection are well-nigh hidden from us.

We come, however, to the animals, taking for the most part M. Rolland as our guide. How is it that we find so little of real folk-lore attached to the squirrel, the mole, or the hedgehog; all creatures of peculiar form and habits? The mole and the hedgehog appear frequently as the "familiaris" of witches, and they may have been raised to evil prominence by their association with the shrewdness of the forest; but there are few stories about them; and for the squirrel, the "shadow-fall" of the forest, he is apparently without a trace of such romance.

As for the true folk-lore about moles, it seems to be confined to the notion which prevails in some parts of France that a sudden appearance of mole-heaps near a house presages death to some of its inmates; and to the well-known story (of which there is a curious Cormel version) which explains how the first mole was a proud and godless dame, famous for the exceeding size and beauty of her eyes. As the punishment of her crime she was changed into a creature whose eyes can hardly be distinguished. The mole, say the Cornish folk, "has hands and feet just like a Christian"; a proof that the story is true.

Every one knows how often the pomegranate is mentioned in Scripture: everyone knows the legendary connection of this tree with the marriage rite. It is obvious that the lovers of myths have not sought in the pomegranate gardens of Canaan an explanation of the mythical origin of the marriage feast. Ruins of church and convent may be seen, particularly the ruins of an ancient Great edifice. At Khurbet Kusa there are also ruins, but they are only of small houses; and at Khurbet N. N. there is a great deal of broken pottery, but the broken jars are clay, not stone as in the Gospel text. No large remains are seen, and not a trace of any edifice can be found. Nothing on the spot suggests the existence in that locality of a village older than the first crusade—Hengestus Deacon in the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

## TORTURE CHAMBER AT RATISBON.

Somehow one always thinks of the rack in connection with such places as these. Well, here it is, in its well-known form—well known, at least, by pictures in old volumes, with which most people used to be familiar. It is a kind of wood-on-bone; at one end are the ropes to secure the feet of the victim, at the other a windlass to tighten another rope fastened to the arms. The body is stretched by these means, more and more at each turn. The question is repeated, and the answer perhaps given—a word, a wall, a curse—who can wonder? If this is not enough, another instrument is added; a roller with blunted spikes is thrust beneath the excised bone, and upon this is rolled up and down. We have all read at least of the *stappado*. Shakespeare has made its name familiar. Well, there is also here a kind of vertical rack, and thus was it used. The arms of the prisoner were tied behind his back, and fastened to a rope, which, working in a pulley in the roof, suddenly drew him upwards, and then, as suddenly slackening, let him fall almost to the ground. But, to make the shock greater, and the dislocation to his limbs more complete, the two heavy stones which were now lie ready at hand—one, we are told, weighed 122 pounds—were fastened to the feet of the victim, and with these dragging on him rose to the roof, and with their momentum added to his own he fell, to jarred as imagination can hardly conceive. Even upon this there was an improvement, or at any rate a variety, for the poor creature could be fastened by his feet to the ground, and the strain of the ropes fastened to his skull by the hair, and then the rack was full of sharp wooden spikes—wooden not iron, for the torture is to be very slow. The arms are studded in the same way, and so is the high back and front legs. Bands of wood similarly spiced are then tied tightly over the arms, legs, and body, that every spike may tell. Here as in most cases the work is gradual; the hands can be drawn tighter, while the questioning goes on, and the surgeon indeed know how much more can be endured. There is an innocent-looking ladder against the wall; but upon closer inspection there are rounds to it of unusual shape—triangular, sharp-edged blocks, which turn treacherously. Here hangs and rope over a pulley, to which the criminal is tied, and by it he is drawn up and let down again quickly, while the sharp rounds roll beneath his bare body, and do their work of torture. We will not dwell upon the lesser instruments—the spiced collars, the iron mits, the boot and thumb screws, though it must be confessed we linger long over each and all of them. Somehow, they grow to exercise a kind of fascination over one; description sickens, but not so the sight and handling of such things. A morbid taste, an absolute illness for the examination, develops itself, and seems to give one a kind of insight into the frame of mind which sustained the questioners and assistants at such scenes as this torture chamber must have witnessed. We begin to measure to understand how the Pyrenees receives none of the dim reverence which is paid to her brother of the far North. Finos and Sainholes swear "by the vengeance of the bear," and through they kill and eat him they propitiate him immediately afterwards by song and dances. Is the Pyrenees the legend, then that when our Lord was on earth a certain man who had frightened "Him" hid in a wood and cried "Obe." As he passed, Our Lord turned and said, "They shall be as thou sayest, and that the first bear (sooth) in the (local) apes) appeared in the world. This is an animal version of history which takes many turns, as in the Bohemian legend of the aspen, which when the Saviour passed through a wood, and all the other trees bent before Him, held herself upright and upright, and has ever since been condemned to quiver. For the wolf, the Breton peasant has something more to say. There are many stories recalling at least in part, the history of Red Riding-hood, which we believe in his received form, does not mount high beyond the Comte Bleu de Madeline D'Aulnoy. He is often too brought in connection with the myth of the golden bough, and in such cases the traditional running of the fox always gets the better of the strength and savage ferocity assigned to "Grisette," as the wolf, for some unknown reason ("Ce nom doit avoir une origine évidemment," says M. Holland)—is called in some districts—Standard.

## AN ANGLO-GERMAN THEATRE.

Where is the manager who will have the courage to open a theatre in London for the production of German plays? At the German language? At Islington alone, "here is a colony of Tautous" large enough to form a vast invading army, and the number of English men and women capable of well understanding the language of Goethe is out of all proportion greater than those who can boast of a nodding acquaintance with the speech of Dante, why then should Italian opera exercise such a tyrannical monopoly over us, to the utter exclusion of German plays? In addition to the performance of some German operas at St. James's Theatre in 1840, we can only find traces of one or two German plays having been presented to the English public at the same house in 1852, though the success which attended these efforts does not seem to have been such as to encourage the promoters to proceed with their enterprise; but it does not at all follow that, because an attempt of this kind is a good many years ago failed, a similar endeavour would not now succeed. For the circumstances are wholly changed.

The Germans are not a very church-going people, even at home, yet they manage to maintain several chapels in London; another are they so addicted to politics as we are, yet they contribute to support a couple of newspapers here. Surely, then, being a people much more attached to the drama than we are, they retain enough of the old enthusiasm to sustain a troupe of native actors in the land of their adoption. *Nemesis patrion exire poset.* "Ob, but" it will be answered, "the supply here is inadequate enough. They can satisfy their tastes in English theatres." That is an argument the Germans themselves will object to, and is answered by the fact that our theatres are very thinly attended by our Teutonic brethren.

Uncharitable lips will be found ready to account for this by saying that German emigrants are but parsimonious souls, and that in their love of art has been obliterated by the thirst for gain. You will be told that the Germans only come over here to undersell their labour and grab together money; but those who make these harsh accusations forget that they who work hardest feel most the need of play.

"And clamorous as you authors may boast it."

"They want amusement, will not go without it."

To a German, however, amusement must be the essence of instruction. Yet where are they to turn for relaxation? It is not so much because a German grudges a couple of shillings for a seat in the pit, as that he cannot get the worth of his money when he is there; burlesques are too profane for his solemn turn of mind; open bouffes are much too trivial to suit his elevated tastes; and the most successful of our comedies in his eyes are but a string of disconnected scenes where, on being a sparkling dialogue of tragedy, dies you give him few. He wants plot, passion, deep reflection, heavy sentiment—anything, in short, as a witty writer remarked, which will enable him "to solve the problem of the universe."

But it may be argued that there can be no hope of a German theatre succeeding in London, since it is found impossible to make a permanent institution even of a French playhouse. That reasoning we leave to the author of the *Wise Men of Salomon*.

For, in the first place, there are far more Germans amongst us than French, and the majority of a German house, we presume, would be the German themselves; secondly, we take it that there are but comparatively few English people, however well they may read a French book, who can follow with intelligent comprehension the rapid enunciation of a Parisian actor, while, on the other hand, it is much more easy to catch the slower and clearer utterance of a language which closely happens to our own makes more familiar to the ear. And we are convinced that more Englishmen could appreciate "Faust" and "William Tell" in the original than catch the native accents of the *Bourgeois Gentilhomme*.

It is often objected that most German pieces are soporific and dull, and calculated to make English players yawn themselves asleep; while, on the other hand, French pieces are lauded as the perfection of art and the essence of amusement; but the English nature, with all its additions and modifications since parting from the parent stock, still shows more sympathy with the gravity of the Gobt than the levity of the Gaul, and we very much doubt whether a piece which "causes tears and smiles from a German house would not also pluck its mood of praise from an English audience. We are afraid that some of that unfair contemptuous kind of feeling with which all Germans are regarded by some Englishmen in the commercial walks of life extended itself to their dramatic performances also: but we doubt very much whether English playwrights and play-writers even, might not also profit by a knowledge of the dramatic art as it is now practised in Germany, which would have the effect of teaching them greater originality, and weaning them from that disgraceful abandonment to French manufacture which is threatening to convert our dramatic market into a mere second-hand Jew-shop for the sale of Parisian old clothes.

The English, however, are not so completely without sympathy with what they see on the stage. Every one who has seen a German playhouse, and who has not been born in Germany, will be struck by the strong resemblance between the German and the English stage. The English, however, are not so completely without sympathy with what they see on the stage. Every one who has seen a German playhouse, and who has not been born in Germany, will be struck by the strong resemblance between the German and the English stage.

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